

REMARKS

Posture of the case

Claims 1-8 were originally filed on September 8, 2000.

In a Reply filed January 20, 2006, Applicant amended claims 1, 5, 9 and 10 to overcome rejections under 35 USC 103(a).

Present Office Action

It is the Applicant's understanding that the present Office action of July 30, 2007, is nonfinal, given that the front page of the Office action states that it is nonfinal and PAIR indicates that it is nonfinal.

The Office action asserts that the title of the invention ("Accreditation of Personnel") is not descriptive. Applicant herein above responsively amends the title to "Method and Apparatus for Accrediting Event Participants."

35 USC 112, second paragraph rejections

The present Office action rejects claims 1 and 5 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. Specifically, the Office action contends that claims 1 and 5 are vague and indefinite on grounds that the following limitation is unclear: "upon arrival of such a participant at, or proximate an event venue, validating said non-valid pass for the participant, thereby accrediting said participant, wherein the participant presents the nonvalid pass upon such arrival, or else the issuing to the participant is upon such arrival." That is, the Office action states it is unclear "how to validate a non-valid pass for the participant, thereby accrediting the participant so that the participant can present a non-valid pass upon such arrival, or else the issuing to the participant is upon such arrival."

Applicant submits amendments to overcome the rejection. Specifically, claims 1 and 5 are amended to make clear that the non-valid pass is issued prior to a participant's arrival and the participant presents the non-valid pass for validation upon arrival, or the non-valid pass is issued upon arrival so that the non-valid, issued pass can then be validated. No new matter is added since the specification as originally submitted provides support. Page 6, line 14 - page 7, line 5.

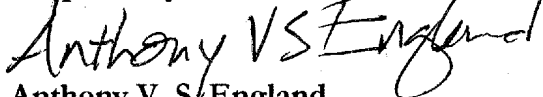
Allowable Claims

Examiner has indicated that claims 3-4 and 9-10 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in this Office action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. However, the Office action states no rejections other than those under 35 USC, second paragraph. Given that the above amendments overcome the rejections under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, Applicant understands claims 1-10 are now in condition for allowance.

REQUESTED ACTION

For the above reasons, Applicant contends the invention set out in claims 1 through 10 is patentably distinct. Applicant requests that Examiner grant allowance and prompt passage of the application to issuance.

Respectfully submitted,



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